

EXTRA.



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PROVINCIAL BOARD OF HEALTH, BRITISH COLUMBIA

SMALLPOX

REGULATIONS FOR THE PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF SMALLPOX TO AND IN BRITISH COLUMBIA. APPROVED BY ORDER OF THE HONOURABLE THE ADMINISTRATOR IN COUNCIL, DATED MARCH 19TH, 1925.

WHEREAS smallpox may at any time break out in the Province, the Provincial Board of Health, subject to the approval of the Honourable the Administrator in Council, enacts the following regulations:—

1. "Health district" or "district" in these regulations means any district over which a Local Board of Health has jurisdiction, irrespective of the manner in which such Local Board is by law constituted or appointed. "Health district" or "district."

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS.

2. On receipt of a notice, forwarded by registered letter addressed to the head of the Council of any municipality, or to its clerk, and signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health, requesting the appointment of a Medical Health Officer, the Council of such municipality shall, within five days from the date of receiving such notice, appoint a Medical Health Officer, and make provision for reasonable compensation for his services, if such appointment and provision has not already been made. If the Council refuse or neglect to make such appointment within five days after receipt of such notice, the Lieutenant-Governor may, on the recommendation of the Provincial Board of Health or of its Chairman and Secretary, make such appointment. Medical Health Officer.

3. Whenever the Medical Health Officer in any district requires the assistance of sanitary police for the purpose of assisting in carrying out the health regulations in force in the district, he shall temporarily employ sanitary police.

one or more persons as sanitary police until the proper authorities shall have appointed sanitary police. If the Medical Health Officer or the Provincial Board of Health require the appointment of any specified number of sanitary policemen, then such number shall be appointed. Should the Council of any municipality refuse or neglect to make such appointments on the request of the Medical Health Officer, such appointments may be made by the Provincial Board of Health.

Nurses, etc., to
be vaccinated.

4. No person shall be employed as Sanitary Inspector, or policeman, nurse, guard, or other attendant in or about any quarantined house, smallpox hospital, or suspect station, or as an undertaker, disinfecter, or driver of an ambulance, unless he or she has had smallpox or submits to vaccination; such persons shall be vaccinated by the Medical Health Officer.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL—SUSPECT STATION.

Acquiring land.

5. The Provincial Board of Health, the Local Board of Health, or the Medical Health Officer of any health district may, either with or without prior agreement, take possession of any unoccupied land or buildings for the purposes of an isolation hospital or for any of the purposes mentioned in sections 13 and 102 of the "Health Act," R.S. 1924, subject to the provisions of sections 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20 of the "Health Act," R.S. 1924, with reference to compensation and otherwise. Any title acquired shall vest in His Majesty or the municipality, as the case may be. The Local Board of Health or the Medical Health Officer then shall, or the Provincial Board of Health may, immediately establish and maintain, at the expense of the Local Board, on said land or in said buildings, an isolation hospital and two suspect stations—one for the special purpose of observing persons suspected of having the disease; the other for the purpose of detaining under observation persons who have been exposed to infection until the period of incubation of the disease shall have elapsed. There shall also be provided, at the expense of the Local Board, an ambulance and other necessary conveyances, and also a modern disinfecting apparatus for hospital and general use. The necessary number of physicians, nurses, guards, and other attendants shall be engaged beforehand, to be in readiness to serve when required. The whole equipment and management of such isolation hospital and suspect stations shall be such as to satisfy an officer of the Provincial Board of Health.

Suspect station.

DEFAULT OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

To be reported to
Provincial Board.

6. Any default on the part of the authorities of any district in taking immediate and effective action in carrying out the regulations of the Provincial Board of Health, or any Health Acts of this Province, or any health by-law in force in the district, shall be at once reported by the Medical Health Officer to the Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health, in order that the said Board may take such measures as it deems requisite for placing the said district in a position, as regards its sanitary arrangements, to effectively combat the said disease.

Doubtful case.

7. Every doubtful case of a communicable disease shall be dealt with and classed as a communicable disease until such is disproved.

NOTIFICATION.

By householder.

8. Whenever any householder knows or suspects that any person within his household has smallpox, he shall immediately, by special messenger when possible, give notice to the Medical Health Officer.

By physician.

9. Whenever any physician knows or suspects that any person whom he is called upon to visit is infected with or has died of smallpox, he shall immediately notify the Medical Health Officer.

10. Any physician so called shall have, for the purpose of isolating the infected person and his attendants and of placing the patient, attendants, and all other persons residing in the same house and the house itself in quarantine, all the powers of the Medical Health Officer, and the duty of ordering and enforcing such immediate isolation and quarantine shall devolve upon such physician until the Medical Health Officer has been notified and has had time to act.

Physician to enforce temporary quarantine.

11. Whenever a teacher in any school has reason to suspect that any pupil is suffering from smallpox, or that smallpox exists at the house of any pupil, he shall notify the Medical Health Officer immediately, and shall prevent the attendance of said pupil or pupils until medical evidence that no danger of infection exists has been obtained. (*Vide* section 101, "Health Act," R.S. 1924.)

By school teacher.

12. When smallpox is present in the Province, any householder who knows or suspects that any person within his family or household has chicken-pox shall immediately notify the Medical Health Officer.

Chicken-pox to be reported.

13. When smallpox is present in the Province, any physician who is called upon to visit a person suffering from chicken-pox shall immediately give written notice to the Medical Health Officer.

Chicken-pox to be reported.

14. The Medical Health Officer shall immediately give notice by telegraph to the Provincial Board of Health of the first case of smallpox which shall appear in his district, and shall further furnish every seven days, or oftener if required, a statement showing the number of new cases developed, the number of those who have died, the number of those who have recovered, and the number who are still sick.

By Medical Health Officer to Provincial Board.

SUSPECTED CASE.

15. The Medical Health Officer of every district, or any of his medical assistants, having received information of a suspected case of smallpox, shall immediately inquire into the facts, either by consultation with the attending physician or by his own personal observation, or both. If the characteristic symptoms are not sufficiently developed at the time of investigation, the Medical Health Officer shall keep the case under his own personal observation at the special suspect station or elsewhere until the true nature of the disease is discovered. Until the time has arrived when in the opinion of the Medical Health Officer all cause for suspicion or danger is past, the suspected case shall be isolated and otherwise dealt with in the same manner as prescribed for a case of smallpox. The persons living in the same house or who have been in contact with the infected patient shall also be kept under observation. And all such persons and the suspected person also shall be immediately vaccinated.

To be treated as a true case.

Vaccination.

16. No milk-container shall be returned to any dairy or milk-vendor from a house while under quarantine.

Milk-container.

17. No person from a house in which there is a patient suffering from smallpox shall handle milk, butter, or any other dairy product which is to be sold or given to any party, delivered to any creamery or butterfactory, nor any utensil or container used in connection therewith. Any of these products may be distributed under precautions to be laid down by the Medical Health Officer.

Food-handlers.

PLACARD.

18. Where there is a case of smallpox in any house, the Medical Health Officer shall forthwith cause a placard to be posted in a conspicuous place on the front of the house, on which shall be printed in large letters the word SMALLPOX, and which shall also state the penalty

Stating disease, etc., to be posted up.

for removal of such card without the permission of the Medical Health Officer.

Removal of placard. 19. No person other than the Medical Health Officer shall remove or cause to be removed such placard, and this only after the place has been disinfected.

ISOLATION—QUARANTINE.

Isolation. 20. *Definitions.*—By isolation is meant the separation of persons suffering from a communicable disease, or carriers of the infectious organism, from other persons, in such places and under such conditions as will prevent the direct or indirect conveyance of the infectious agent to any person.

Quarantine. By incubation or quarantine (these terms being synonymous for the purpose of these regulations) is meant the limitation of freedom or movement of persons who have been exposed to communicable diseases for the period of time equal to the incubation period of the disease to which they have been exposed.

No person to enter infected house without permission. 21. No person shall enter any infected or quarantined house, isolation hospital, or suspect station without the permission of the Medical Health Officer.

Patient, etc., to be isolated and house quarantined. 22. Every person having smallpox shall be immediately isolated with his attendant or nurse in a separate room until such time as he can be removed to an isolation hospital or elsewhere, and nothing shall be taken out of such room without having previously been disinfected; and besides such isolation of the patient in a separate room, the house and all persons residing therein, as well as all other persons who were exposed to infection, shall be quarantined. The Medical Health Officer shall then, as soon as possible where such removal can be effected without danger to life, remove such infected patient to the isolation hospital, tent, or other place as provided. A patient shall not be discharged from such isolation hospital for twenty-eight days, or until all scabs have fallen off and all lesions have healed.

Quarantine to follow refusal of vaccination. 23. Any person refusing to comply with the regulations as to vaccination or revaccination shall be quarantined in his house at his own expense for the full period of quarantine, then disinfected and released, except in the case of a transient or an occupant of any hotel, rooming-house, public lodging-house, apartment-house, or other public place, who may be removed to a detention station and detained there. In this case, however, the city, town, village, or municipal district shall provide the detained person with the necessities of life.

Provincial Health Officer may be authorized to perform any duty of Local Board. 24. When the case appears to be urgent, owing to the presence of smallpox in the Province, or immediately contiguous thereto, the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may authorize the Provincial Health Officer to perform any duty belonging to any Local Board of Health or Medical Health Officer, and which is neglected by such Local Board or Medical Health Officer; the expenses incurred therein to be paid by the Local Board.

VACCINATION.

Facilities for vaccination. 25. It is hereby ordered that all Local Boards of Health shall arrange suitable times and places for vaccination and give public notice thereof.

Vaccination of residents. 26. Every resident of this Province shall forthwith be vaccinated or produce to the Medical Health Officer of the district or municipality where he or she resides a certificate or proof of successful vaccination within the preceding two years, or a certificate that such person is at

the present insusceptible of vaccination, or a certificate of physical unfitness for vaccination. Such certificate shall be from a duly qualified medical practitioner.

27. It shall be the duty of the school trustees and teachers of all schools (public and private) to see that the provisions of the preceding subsection are forthwith complied with by teachers, janitors, all employees of the School Board, and by all children attending such schools, high schools, or colleges.

Compliance by school staff and pupils.

28. The trustees and teachers of all schools (public or private) shall provide that no child shall be permitted to attend school without producing a certificate of successful vaccination, or that the child is insusceptible to vaccination, or a certificate of physical unfitness.

School attendance requires certificate of vaccination.

PENAL CLAUSE.

(Sec. 112, "Health Act.")

29. Provides that any person who violates any regulation of the Provincial Board shall, unless it is otherwise specially provided, be liable for every such offence to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars, with or without costs, or to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding six months, or to both fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the convicting Court.

PROVINCIAL BOARD OF HEALTH, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

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